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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

Programme budget implications of draft decision A/C.1/47/L.53

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft decision

1. At its 40th meeting, held on 25 November 1992, the First Committee adopted, without a vote, draft decision A/C.1/47/L.53. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Commitee in document A/C.1/47/L.55.

2. Under the terms of paragraph (a) of draft decision A/C.1/47/L.53, the General Assembly would decide, inter alia, to reconvene meetings of the First Committee for five working days, from 8 to 12 March 1993 in New York, with the purpose of reassessing the multilateral arms control and disarmament machinery, in particular the respective roles of the First Committee, the United Nations Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament and their interrelationship, as well as the role of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, including ways and means to enhance the functioning and efficiency of the said machinery, bearing in mind the competence of the Security Council in these matters.

B. Relationship of the request to the approved programme of work

3. The above request is related to major programme I, Maintenance of peace and security, disarmament and decolonization, programme 7, Disarmament, subprogramme 1, Deliberation and negotiation, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 as proposed for revision. 1/ Related activities were initially programmed and approved under subprogramme 1, Deliberation and negotiation, of section 5, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, 2/ responsibility for which was transferred to the Department of Political Affairs following the restructuring of the Secretariat. Proposals for transfer of related resources to section 37, Department of Political Affairs, have been submitted to the General Assembly in the Secretary-General's revised estimates (A/C.5/47/2 and Corr.1).

C. Activities by which the request would be implemented

4. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft decision, the Secretary-General would undertake the necessary preparation for the servicing of the reconvened meeting of the First Committee for five working days from 8 to 12 March 1993 in New York.

D. Modifications required in the approved programme of work for 1992-1993

5. The activities called for by the draft decision would fall under subparagraphs 2 (a) and (b) of subprogramme 1 of section 5, the activities of which are now the responsibility of the Department of Political Affairs, as indicated in paragraph 3, above. Accordingly, no modifications would be required.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

6. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft decision, it is assumed that the reconvened meeting of the First Committee would require the provision of interpretation in the six languages of the General Assembly and translation of pre-session documentation of 200 pages (2 documents), in-session documentation of 250 pages (20 documents) and post-session documentation of 50 pages (2 documents) to be issued in the six languages of the General Assembly. In addition, the meetings of the First Committee would require the provision of verbatim records in the six languages of the General Assembly.

7. The related full cost of provision of conference servicing for a five-day session in New York in 1993 is estimated at $815,900, as follows:

		$
I.	Pre-session documentation	
	(200 pages, 2 documents: A,C,E,F,R,S)	197 200
II.	Meeting servicing (10 meetings)	
	(Interpretation: A,C,E,F,R,S)	58 200
III.	In-session documentation	
	(250 pages, 2 documents: A,C,E,F,R,S)	261 200
IV.	Post-session documentation	
	(50 pages, 2 documents: A,C,E,F,R,S)	50 700
V.	Verbatim records	
	(10 meetings: A,C,E,F,R,S)	248 600
	Total	815 900

F. Potential for absorption

8. As regards the estimated conference-servicing costs in New York of the reconvened meetings of the First Committee called for in the draft decision and outlined in paragraphs 6 and 7, above, these estimates, totalling $815,900, are based on the theoretical assumption that no part of the conference-servicing requirements would be met from within the permanent conference-servicing capacity under section 41 of the programme budget and that additional resources would be required for temporary assistance for meetings. The extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity needs to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can be determined only in the light of the final calendar of conferences for 1992-1993. As indicated in paragraph 32.4 of the programme budget, 3/ however, the level of resources for temporary assistance for meetings in 1992-1993 was estimated on the basis of previous experience to accommodate not only meetings which are programmed but also additional meetings. In other words, provision was made in the proposed programme budget not only for meetings known at the time of budget preparation but also for meetings that would be authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings and conferences in the biennium 1992-1993 was consistent with the pattern of meetings in past years. On that basis, it is estimated that no additional resources would be required under section 41 of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 as a result of the adoption of draft decision A/C.1/47/L.53.

C. Summary

9. Should the General Assembly adopt draft decision A/C.1/47/L.53, no additional appropriation would be required under section 37 or 41 of the programme budget for 1992-1993.

Notes

1/ A/47/6 (Prog.7) and E/AC.51/1992/L.5/Add.3.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

3/ Ibid., vol. II.